

**Department of Historic Resources  
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

**Accomack**

**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0112**

**Resource Identification**

Property Name(s): ..... WFF # X-115 Plant Operations and Maintenance  
Branch Shop and Storage {Current}  
Property Date: ..... 1955  
Address(s): ..... Island Road {Current}  
County/Independent City: Accomack  
Vicinity of: ..... Chincoteague  
State, Zip: ..... Virginia 23337  
USGS Quad Name: ..... WALLOPS ISLAND  
Surrounding area: ..... Rural

**National Register Eligibility Status**

Property is not Historic (50 years or older)

Property has not been evaluated

**Resource Description**

Ownership Status: ..... Public - Federal  
Acreage: ..... 0.5

**Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:**

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	Structural System - Block
Roof	Roof - Flat		Roof - Not visible

Site Description: ..... Located on the west side of Island Road on Wallops Island, the Plant Operations and Maintenance Branch Shop and Storage is in a level area set with three other structures at the end of a small access road behind X-035 Damage Control and Service Shops (001-0027-0108).

**WUZIT Count:**

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Industrial Storage	Historic

**NR Resource Count:**

**Individual Resource Information**

WUZIT: ..... Industrial Storage

<u>Est. Date of Construction:</u> ....	1955 {Owner/written data}	<u>Accessed?</u> .....	No	Not accessible
<u>Primary Resource?</u> .....	Yes	<u>Number of Stories:</u> .....	1.0	
<u>Architectural Style:</u> .....	Other	<u>Condition:</u> .....	Good-Fair	
<u>Interior Plan Type:</u> .....	Other	<u>Threats to Resource:</u> .....	Neglect Deterioration	

**Description:** The rectangular concrete block building has a poured concrete slab foundation and a flat roof that projects slightly on all four sides. While the roof materials are not visible, aluminum flashing wraps the corner of the roof edge. Four trapezoidal blocks, also covered with flashing, are set on top of the roof and span east to west. The blocks may be the base of a former platform as a steel ladder attached to the west elevation provides access from grade to the roof. A round, aluminum vent cap projects from the roof. The south elevation contains a centrally located door opening that contains an aluminum roll top door. Originally, a tall window opening flanked the roll top door to the west but has since been filled in with concrete block. A tall door opening has been filled in to the east of the center and a smaller door opening, containing a single steel door has been inserted. Three regularly spaced window openings on the east and west elevations have also been blocked in, save the northern most opening on the east elevation that contains a louvered aluminum vent.

**Cemetery Information**

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**Bridge Information**

**National Register Eligibility Information**

*Historic Context(s):* ..... Technology/Engineering

*Historic Time Period(s):*..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

*Significance Statement:* This one-story building was built in 1955 by the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA). Originally, the building housed compressed air generating equipment for various applications related to rocket construction and launches. Located on the west side of Island Road, in an area bounded by woods, it is now part of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) and is currently used as a small shop and storage for maintenance and operation. It is one of three buildings located at the end of an access drive that extends off Island Road behind the Delrum. Storage and Assembly Shop (001-0027-0106, WFF # X-015). The three buildings are located on each side of a paved concrete area; this building is on the north side of the area.

The building is representative of a secondary resource associated with a technology/engineering property type built at the beginning of the New Dominion Period (1945 – present) period. The building was constructed as a component of a rocket research facility operated by the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) under the direction of NACA from 1946 to 1958. Until becoming part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, PARS functioned as a rocket research facility that continually refined its capacity to collect aeronautic and scientific data through improvements in radar tracking, radio telemetry, and photographic techniques that provided significant data for the development of Cold War missile technology and manned spaceflight during the Space Race.

The Shop & Electrical Maintenance Storage Building has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the demolition of many of the buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959), the removal of much of the historic fabric from the majority of extant buildings, and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. As a secondary resource, it does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. While the resource retains its location, setting and association, alterations to the building have adversely affected its integrity of design, materials, workmanship and feeling, including the in-fill of original openings and the replacement of original windows and doors. Also, as a secondary resource of common design and materials, the resource is not eligible under Criterion C as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

**Bibliographic Documentation**

*Reference #:* 1

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Book

*Author:* ..... Joseph Adams Shortal

*Citation Abbreviation:* .....

*Notes:* ..... Shortal, Joseph Adams. "A New Dimension—Wallops Island Flight Test Range: The First Fifteen Years." National Aeronautics and Space Administration Scientific and Technical Information Office: 1978.

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***DHR Id#: 001-0027-0112***

***Ownership Information***

***Graphic Media Documentation***

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21542	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 32-36

***Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events***

CRM Event # 1,  
Cultural Resource Management Event: ..... Reconnaissance Survey  
Date: ..... 2004/07/99  
Organization or Person: ..... URS Group  
VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571  
CRM Event Notes or Comments: ..... 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event # 2,  
Cultural Resource Management Event: ..... Reconnaissance Survey  
Date: ..... 2003/08/08  
Organization or Person: ..... URS Group  
VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571  
CRM Event Notes or Comments: ..... 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700  
Bethesda, MD 20814